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OFFICE OF THE MARIANAS DELEGATION
CONGRESS OF MICRONESIA
P. O. Box 825
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

March 22, 1973

Mr. Pedro Q. Dela Cruz
Chairman, District Economic
Development Board
Mariana Islands District
Saipan, Mariana Islands 96950

Dear Mr. Dela Cruz:

I am submitting a written statement to your committee in support of the Pacific Basin Hotel and Development Corporation which proposed to be built on Tinian, subject to the approval of Authorities Concerned. Hope this statement can be of any assistance to the committee in evaluating their proposal.

I feel honoured to contribute a few thoughts about the establishment of a corporation which is interested in constructing hotel facilities on Tinian. I am referring specifically to the plans of the Pacific Basin Hotel and Development Corporation to construct a 100 room hotel on the Island.

Generally, I am in favor with such development, as long as it meets two requirements. The first requirement is that such development not only benefit the developer and those who will be served--the tourists--but it must also offer benefits to the people of the island, and be approved by them.

Second, such development must be in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by our recently established Environmental Protection Board.

If these requirements are met, I think I could give my support for such an undertaking in this area because of the benefits that will accrue to the people of Tinian.

I can see that such development will not only provide more jobs, and therefore, more money for the citizens of Tinian, but will also have several side-effects.

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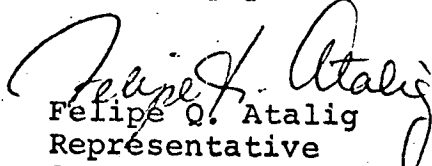
Such development will bring in people who will spend their money not only in the hotel, but for other purposes, such as the purchase of handicrafts, produce and services which the people can offer them.

This kind of shot in the arm to our economy here will also insure that Tinian's economy will have a broadened base. In the future, instead of having an economy based solely on agriculture, we may see one based on tourism, agriculture, and perhaps some amount from the U.S. Military, should such facilities be developed here.

Lastly, the development of this kind of facility will bring other side-benefits: Better and more frequent air and surface transportation, and perhaps better water and power facilities, as well as improved roads and docks.

In general then, if the requirements I outlined at the beginning are met, I believe such development can be beneficial for everyone involved.

Sincerely yours,


Felipe Q. Atalig
Representative
Congress of Micronesia

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